

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR MARR NATO GR
SUBJECT: US-GREEK NEGOTIATIONS - MILITARY FACILITIES
REFS: A. STATE 33794; B. ATHENS 1298

1. US NEGOTIATORS IN FEB 14 DISCUSSIONS PROPOSED TO
GOG NEGOTIATORS TEXT OF STATEMENT AMBASSADORS BRUCE
AND THEODOROPOULOS MIGHT USE TO INFORM SYG LUNS AND
NATO ALLIES OF INITIAL ROUND OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.
GOG NEGOTIATORS WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN CLEARANCE FOR
TEXT UNTIL AM OF FEB 18. GOG IS CABLING TEXT TO
THEODOROPOULOS.

2. BEGIN TEXT. "THE GOVERNMENTS OF GREECE AND THE
UNITED STATES HELD INITIAL DISCUSSIONS IN ATHENS
FEB 10 - 14 ON BILATERAL DEFENSE QUESTIONS,
INCLUDING US FACILITIES IN GREECE. THE GREEK SIDE WAS
LED BY AMBASSADOR PETROS CALOGERAS, AND INCLUDED
EXPERTS FROM THE HELLENIC MENISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND THE HELLENIC ARMED SERVICES. THE US SIDE WAS
LED BY MINISTER MONTEAGLE STEARNS OF THE US EMBASSY
AND INCLUDED EXPERTS FROM THE DEPT OF STATE AND
DEFENSE IN WASHINGTON. THESE DISCUSSIONS WERE UNDERTAKEN
AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE.

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3. "BOTH SIDES REVIEWED A BROAD RANGE OF GREEK-US DEFENSE

ISSUES, INCLUDING BILATERAL DEFENSE AGREEMENTS, AND THE STATUS OF US FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL IN GREECE. DISCUSSIONS WERE FRANK AND INFORMATIVE, AND IT WAS AGREED THAT A FURTHER ROUND OF TALKS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. "IN PARTICULAR, US AND GREEK REPRESENTATIVES EXCHANGED THE LIST AVAILABLE TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS OF EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS GOVERNING FACILITIES AND OTHER BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS. SINCE THESE EXTEND IN SOME CASES TO THE LATE 1940'S, OTHER ALLIES WILL APPRECIATE THAT A COMMON, UP TO DATE LIST IS DIFFICULT TO ASSEMBLE, ALTHOUGH ESSENTIAL TO A REVIEW OF THE SUBJECT.

5. "GREECE INFORMED THE UNITED STATES OF ITS INTEREST IN REVEIWING BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS GOVERNING PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES, AND EXEMPTIONS FOR US FORCES IN GREECE IN THE CONTEXT OF NATO STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT OF 1951. IT FURTHER ASKED FOR A REVIEW OF US-UTILIZED FACILITIES, INCLUDING HOMEPORTING OF SIXTH FLEET ELEMENTS AT ELEFSIS. GREECE ALSO RAISED GENERAL QUESTIONS OF ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN US FACILITIES IN GREECE.

6. "IT WAS AGREED THAT, AFTER STUDY BY BOTH SIDES OF THE RESULTS OF THESE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS, A SECOND MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THIS IMPORTANT AND COMPLEX SUBJECT MATTER." END TEXT.

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